

## More Emphasis on Remote Recreation and Remote Habitat Alternative

This alternative is being considered to address concerns that more of the wildest and least developed areas of the National Forest should be managed to maintain those conditions by restricting road construction and timber harvest. As a starting point for developing this alternative, all of the areas identified in *The Wilderness Society's Virginia's Mountain Treasures: The Unprotected Wildlands of the George Washington National Forest* were identified for some type of special management. This included recommended wilderness, National Scenic Area and remote backcountry.

Area Name	Ranger District	Acreage	Recommended Wilderness	Remote Backcountry	National Scenic Area
Adams Peak	Pedlar	2,499	X**		
Archer Knob	North River	31,197		X	
Back Creek Mountain	Warm Springs	6,662		X	
Beards Mountain	James River & Warm Springs	10,503		X	
Bearwallow Mountain	James River	7,737		X	
Beech Lick Knob	North River	11,995	X		
Benson Run	North River	5,471		X	
Big Ridge	Warm Springs	18,409		X	
Big Schloss	Lee	6,345	X*	X	
Broad Run	North River	7,242		X	
Catback Mountain (aka Waterfall)	Lee	11,721		X	
Church Mountain	Lee	17,152		X	
Crawford Mountain	North River	5,305	X		
Dolly Ann	James River	9,211		X	
Dry River	North River	6,677		X	
Dunkle Knob	North River	4,057		X	
Elliot Knob	North River	8,521		X	
Falls Ridge	Lee	8,398		X	
Feedstone Mountain	North River	14,665		X	
Fore Mountain	James River	10,661		X	
Great North Mountain	Lee	5,703		X	
Green Mountain	Lee	12,938		X	
Gum Run	North River	29,341			X*
Hankey Mountain	North River	5,047			X*
Hogpen Mountain	North River	13,142		X	
Jerkemtight	North River	19,059	X		
Jerrys Run	James River	7,263		X	
Jonnies Knob	Lee	4,044		X	
Kelley Mountain	Pedlar	10,726			X

<b>Area Name</b>	<b>Ranger District</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Recommended Wilderness</b>	<b>Remote Backcountry</b>	<b>National Scenic Area</b>
Kretchie Mountain	North River	21,258		X	
Laurel Fork	Warm Springs	14,969	X		
Little Alleghany Mountain	Warm Springs	16,656	X		
Little Cow Knob	North River	9,796		X	
Little Mare Mountain	James River & Warm Springs	7,155		X	
Little River	North River	5,596	X*		X*
Long Mountain	Lee	10,594		X	
Longdale	James River & Glenwood/Pedlar	12,652		X	
Mud Run Mountain	James River	7,633		X	
Northern Massanutten Mountain	Lee	5,444		X	
Oak Knob	North River	5,713			X*
Oliver Mountain	James River	7,959	X		
Paddy Lick	Warm Springs	15,990		X	
Panther Knob (Ridge)	James River	7,832		X	
Panther Knob (Ridge) (Jr & Mon)	James River	12,586		X	
Ramseys Draft Wilderness Addition	North River	11,721	X*		X*
Rich Hole Wilderness Addition (aka Mill Mt)	James River & Warm Springs	5,788	X		
Rough Mountain Wilderness Addition	Warm Springs	9,613	X		
Saint Marys Wilderness Addition A	Pedlar	12,498	X		
Saint Marys Wilderness Addition B	Pedlar	4,647	X		
Saint Marys Wilderness Addition C	Pedlar	2,197	X		
Scaffold Run	Warm Springs	4,396		X	
Shaws Ridge	North River	7,879		X	
Short Horse Mountain (aka Browns Run)	Lee	13,000		X	
Short Mountain	Warm Springs	6,934		X	
Sideling Hill	North River	4,178		X	
Signal Corps Knob	North River	4,777		X	
Signal Knob	Lee	6,283		X	
Skidmore Fork	North River	4,043	X*		X*
Slaty Mountain	James River	12,895		X	
Snake Run Ridge	James River	3,008		X	

Area Name	Ranger District	Acreage	Recommended Wilderness	Remote Backcountry	National Scenic Area
Southern Massanutten Mountain	Lee	277		X	
The Friar	Pedlar	1,508		X	
Three Sisters	Pedlar	3,976	X**		
Toms Knob	James River & Eastern Divide	9,969		X	
Walker Mountain	North River	4,614		X	
Warm Springs Mountain	Warm Springs	13,028		X	
West Back Creek Mountain	Warm Springs	4,367		X	
Whites Peak	Pedlar	5,677	X**		
Wildcat Ridge	North River	3,734		X	
* Boundaries according to proposal made by Friends of Shenandoah Mountain					
*Boundaries according to recommendations from Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors					

These areas total about 630,000 acres. The following management prescription areas would be mapped and described as in the need for change proposal (unless they are included within one of the above areas):

Wilderness Areas

Eligible Scenic and Recreation Rivers

Appalachian National Scenic Trail Corridor

Little Laurel Run Research Natural Area

Geologic Areas

Special Biological Areas

Cultural and Heritage Areas

Mount Pleasant National Scenic Area

Administrative Sites

Designated Communication Sites

Designated Utility Corridors

Highlands Scenic Byway

Sensitive Recreation and Travelways

Motorized Recreation (Off-Highway Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles)

Developed Recreation Areas

High Density Dispersed Recreation Areas

Pastoral Landscapes

Blue Ridge Parkway Visual Corridor

Indiana Bat Primary and Secondary Cave Protection Areas

Shenandoah Mountain Crest-Cow Knob Salamander Conservation Area

Floodplains, Wetlands and Riparian Areas

Remote Backcountry Areas

We expect that the desired conditions and standards for some of these areas would change as this alternative is further developed. After identifying all of the above special areas, there would likely be from 150,000 to 200,000 acres of land that would be available for creation of wildlife habitat needs using timber harvest and other wildlife improvement activities.